



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY ON ROBBERY AND GUN CHARGES

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **George Cannon**, 46, Kansas City, Kansas entered a guilty plea today before U.S. District Judge Carlos Murguia to one count of robbery of a business engaged in interstate commerce; one count of carrying a revolver during the robbery; and one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Melgren said that Cannon admitted at his plea that on December 26, 2003, he and Michael Hussey entered the Taco John's restaurant, Lawrence, Kansas, and stole approximately \$855 from the restaurant. A customer at the drive-through window saw what was happening and called the police on her cell phone. The police arrived as Cannon was running from the restaurant. Cannon was pursued and captured. As Cannon fled he threw a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver to the ground which was recovered by the police. The videotape from the store's security system was found in Cannon's coat pocket. Cannon further admitted that he was previously convicted of a felony, robbery, in 1983 in Wyandotte County, Kansas.

Cannon faces a maximum of twenty years in federal prison, without parole, for robbery of a business engaged in interstate commerce; a minimum of five years and a maximum of life for carrying a firearm during a robbery; and a maximum of ten years for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing is set for August 16, 2004.

Co-defendant **Michael Hussey**, 38, Kansas City, Kansas, pled guilty April 20, 2004 before U.S. District Judge Carlos Murguia. Sentencing is set for July 12, 2004.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Lawrence Police Department in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Leon Patton in this prosecution.